

The following tribute from Congressman Bachus to the service of Army Private First Class Julian Colvin of Birmingham was part of the House floor recognition led by Congresswoman Terri Sewell (AL-7) on August 2, 2012

Mr. Speaker:

Thank you for allowing the U.S. House to honor Army Private First Class Julian Colvin of Birmingham, who lost his life in Kandahar Province, Afghanistan on July 22, 2012 in the defense of his country.

Pfc. Colvin was a dedicated paratrooper and combat engineer assigned to the 82nd Airborne Division, Fort Bragg, North Carolina.

Although just 21 years of age and on his first deployment, Pfc. Colvin was highly-decorated for his service, with awards including the Bronze Star Medal, the Purple Heart, the Army Commendation Medal, the National Defense Service Medal, the Afghanistan Campaign Medal, the Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, the Army Service Ribbon, the Overseas Ribbon, the Combat Action Badge, and the Basic Parachutist Badge.

But perhaps the highest honors have come from the innumerable testimonials to his high character.

Pfc. Colvin was, according to Lt. Col. Peter Levola, commander of the 508th Brigade Special Troops Battalion, “a shining example of the inspiration and promise of our young, remarkable Paratroopers – a selfless hero who willingly took on one of the most difficult jobs in the Brigade by leading patrols with a mine detector.”

Services for Pfc. Colvin will be held at the 6th Avenue Baptist Church in Birmingham on Saturday, August 4. Our thoughts and prayers are with his family and loved ones during this difficult time.

We will always remember Pfc. Colvin as a young patriot and hero to us all and it is appropriate for our nation to remember his service today.

As the senior member of the Alabama delegation, we join with Congresswoman Terri Sewell in her tribute to our Alabama hero, Army Private First Class Julian Colvin.